aspects of development planning, lays stress on preventive aspects of pollution abatement and promotion of technological inputs to reduce industrial pollution.

— Environmental Guidelines have been evolved for siting and operation of industries.

— Fiscal incentives are provided for installation of pollution control equipment and also for the shifting of industries from congested areas. Custom and excise duty exemptions are provided to the industries for pollution control/monitoring equipment.

— A scheme for setting up of common effluent treatment plants (CETPs) in clusters of small scale industrial units is under implementation where 50% of the cost of CETP is provided as subsidy.

— To promote pollution prevention in small and medium scale industries, a project on establishment of waste minimisation circles in cluster of small scale industrial units has been taken up.

— Effluent and emission standards have been notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

— Tighter emission standards were introduced on 1.4.1996 for all categories of petrol and diesel vehicles and is to be made stricter from 1.4.2000. This would help introduce cleaner vehicles involving upgradation of technologies to reduce emissions from vehicles.

— The Central Government has advised various States to enforce the standards for emissions from on-road vehicles and create awareness amongst the general public on various aspects such as maintenance of vehicles, health effects of vehicular pollution.

— Low-lead petrol has been introduced in the four metro cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai with effect from June, 1994. Subsequently, unleaded petrol was introduced in the above mentioned four cities on 1.4.1995.

— The Government is implementing a major plan of action for introduction of unleaded petrol and catalytic converter vehicles, introduction of low sulphur diesel for cleaner diesel vehicles in a phased manner. Fuel quality standards for petrol and diesel have been notified.

— Regular monitoring is being carried out by the Central Pollution Control Board and State Pollution Control Boards and legal action is being taken against the defaulters in respect of highly polluting industries.

Concert Packet Switching Systems

732. SHRI SANAT MEHTA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the name of suppliers of Concert Packet Switching Systems in Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (VSNL)

(b) whether global tender was floated for this system;

(c) if so, the terms and conditions thereof; and

(d) the names of companies who offered their willingness for the system?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) The name of the Supplier of the Concert Packet Switching Systems to VSNL is British Telecom.

(b) No, Sir. The equipments for the Concert Packet Switching System is a proprietary item of British Telecom Ltd., UK. Since British Telecom Ltd., is the sole supplier of the system, the question of floating global of Concert Packet Switching System does not arise.

(c) Question does not arise in vier of the answer to question (b) above.

(d) None, since the CPS is a proprietary item of BT Ltd., UK, the question of other companies offering their willingness to this system does not arise.

Reduction in UGC Allocations

733. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the UGC has reduced allocations to several Central Universities;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to review its decision; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Acquisition of AJT for IAF

734. SHRI C. NARASIMHAN:

SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO:

PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a High level committee had recommended for the acquisition of advance jet trainer for IAF training programme;

(b) if so, whether IAF training programme continues to suffer due to lack of such aircrafts;

(c) if so, the reasons for not acquiring the advance jet trainers so far; and